

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 H-01 INR-05 CPR-01 SP-02 SY-02

/032 W

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R 192151Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3081

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 0979

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (DEMETRIO B. LAKAS); PN

SUBJ: PRESIDENT LAKAS' TRAVEL

REFS: PANAMA 919, 926

1. AS YOU KNOWN, PRESIDENT LAKAS IS CURRENTLY UNDER-GOING MEDICAL CHECKUP AT ST. LUKES HOSPITAL IN HOUSTON. THIS SHOULD BE COMPLETED TOMORROW. HE THEN PLANS TO SPEND A FEW DAYS IN DALLAS-FORT WORTH AREA VISITING OLD COLLEGE FRIENDS. HE WILL THEN FLY TO GREECE FOR COUPLE DAYS VISIT WITH HIS SISTER IN ATHENS. HE PLANS RETURN TO PANAMA VIA US.

2. BEFORE HE LEFT, I SPOKE WITH HIM ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF MEETING WITH INDIVIDUALS OR SMALL GROUPS IN THE US TO DISCUSS US-PANAMA RELATIONS AND THE STAKES INVOLVED IN BUILDING A NEW RELATIONSHIP BASED ON A NEW TREATY. HE SAID HE WISHED TO GET MEDICAL CHECK BEHIND HIM AND THEN -- ASSUMING ALL WAS WELL -- HE WOULD HAPPILY CONSIDER ANY SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING MEETINGS THAT MIGHT BE USEFUL. HE SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH ME AS  
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SOON AS THE RESULTS OF HIS TESTS WERE KNOWN. HE ALSO

INDICATED HE PLANNED TO HAVE RICARDO DE LA ESPRIELLA,  
MANAGER OF BANCO NACIONAL AND CLOSE FRIEND, CONTACT YOU  
ON SAME SUBJECT.

3. OBVIOUSLY THERE WILL BE PROTOCOLARY PROBLEMS  
IN VISIT OF HEAD OF STATE TO WASHINGTON, EVEN THOUGH  
IT WOULD BE UNOFFICIAL VISIT. BUT I CAN SEE DISTINCT  
ADVANTAGES IN THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH SELECTED  
SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN AND PERHAPS WITH MEDIA REPS.  
I WOULD ALSO THINK THAT INTERVIEW WITH EDITORIAL BOARD  
OF US NEWS ALONG LINES OF THEIR REGULAR FORMAT WOULD BE  
A PLUS. I WOULD BE HAPPY RAISE THIS POSSIBILITY WITH  
TOP-LEVEL EDITORS OF MAGAZINE WHOM I KNOW. YOU MAY ALSO  
WISH CONSIDER POSSIBLE MEETING WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS  
IN MIAMI AREA UNDER SPONSORSHIP OF CONGRESSMAN FASCELL.  
FINALLY, ASSUMING CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH AFTER HOUSTON  
TESTS, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE LAKAS MEET WITH INFLUENTIAL  
PERSONAGES IN DALLAS-FORT WORTH AREA. I BELIEVE I  
CAN GET PUBLISHER OF TIMES HERALD WHO IS GOOD FRIEND  
TO SPONSOR SUCH A SESSION.

4. ABOVE IS MAINLY TO ALERT YOU TO LAKAS VISIT AND  
TO SUGGEST WAYS IN WHICH THIS MIGHT MOST USEFULLY BE  
ADDRESSED TO OUR COMMON PROBLEM. HAS DE LA ESPRIELLA  
BEEN IN TOUCH? APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON FOREGOING.

WARM REGARDS.  
JORDEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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